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RSC Misinformation Alert: "If you like your plan, you can keep your plan" *, **, ***, ****, *****, *****

One of President Obama's favorite lines on the stump is that if you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan. We can no doubt expect to hear it today out West as Mr. Obama talks to a crowd in Montana. But with the White House on the hunt to dispel the supposed rampant disinformation floating around, we thought we'd help stamp out those flagrant mistruths.

Last time he was out, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the President took a few liberties with the truth. Spreading his own misinformation, he made a false statement about AARP supporting his plan, twice. He then compared private insurance competing against the government to FedEx and UPS competing with the Postal Service, never mind the fact that it is illegal for private companies to compete with the USPS in delivering mail.

But perhaps the biggest whopper is this repeated insistence by the President that you can keep your plan if you like it under the Obama system. Just as a White House aide was forced to admit, the President's words shouldn't be taken literally.

President Obama in New Hampshire: "Under the reform we're proposing, if you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan." *, **, ***, ****, ******

- * Claim not valid after five years as all health care plans must then meet a new federal definition for a "qualified" health care plan. (Section 102(b), H.R. 3200)
- ** Claim not valid if you rely on a Health Savings Account (HSA) as the construct for these plans is outlawed in the bill (Section 122 (c)(3), H.R. 3200)
- *** Claim not valid if you choose to make any changes to your employer-provided plan or get a different plan in the next five years, as doing so would trigger the mandate to have a government approved plan. (Section 102(c), H.R. 3200)
- **** Claim not valid if your insurance company makes any additions to your private, individual plan (such as including more people or adding a newly found cure for cancer),

as doing so would trigger the mandate to have a government approved plan. (Section 102(a), H.R. 3200)

***** Claim not valid if your employer finds it cheaper to dump you on the government plan rather than pay for care. (Section 412, H.R. 3200)

****** Claim not valid after the federal government envelops the private market as it has done with Medicare, leaving only a government option on the table. (Common Sense)